

## Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NEA-10 GAC-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 IO-12 OIC-04

ACDA-19 OMB-01 RSR-01 /148 W

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R 041545 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5908

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

ALL CSCE CAPITALS 184

USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 895

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

E. O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: APRIL 3 PLENARY MEETING ON WORK PROGRAM

1. SUMMARY. INFORMAL WORK OUTLINE SUGGESTED BY MALTA  
SERVED AS FOCAL POINT FOR DISCUSSION OF NEED TO DEVELOP  
RATIONAL RHYTHM OF ACTIVITY TO MEET BURGEONING WORK LOAD.  
MAJORITY SENTIMENT FAVORED ( A) FOURTH ROUND AS LAST IN  
MPT; ( B) MAINTENANCE IN PRINCIPLE OF MIDSUMMER TARGET  
DATE FOR INITIAL STAGE OF CONFERENCE, WITH FINAL DECISION  
AND SPECIFIC DATE TO BE DETERMINED IN LIGHT OF PROGRESS;  
( C) CONSIDERATION FOR THE PLIGHT OF SMALL DELEGATIONS  
IN TRYING TO BE REPRESENTED ON PROLIFERATING WORKING  
AND DRAFTING GROUPS, BUT RECOGNITION THAT OVERLAPPING LIKELY  
TO BE NECESSARY; ( D) AGREEMENT TO CONVENEPOLISH- PROPOSED WORKING  
GROUP ON FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL MATTERS ON 25 APRIL AND ( E)  
DECISION TO GIVE BASKET 4 ( CONFERENCE FOLLOW- ON) CURSORY  
TREATMENT ON APRIL 5. SOVIET AMB MENDELEVICH BLUNTLY  
STRESSED THAT WORK SHOULD NOT BE SUBORDINATE TO SIZE OF  
DELEGATION, BUT DELEGATION ADAPTED TO WORK. FRANCE,  
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CANADA AND US URGED THAT ROUND IV BE LAST IN MPT WITH CONFERENCE IN LATE JUNE. END SUMMARY

2. PACE OF WORK. SWITZERLAND (JOINTED BY BELGIUM, MALTA, NETHERLANDS, PORTUGAL AND TURKEY) OBJECTED TO BEING HUSTLED. SMALLER DELEGATIONS SHOULD NOT BE PUT AT DISADVANTAGE BY DEMANDS POSED BY PARTICIPATION IN PROLIFERATING MPT WORKING GROUPS. PRESENT PRACTICES SHOULD NOT CONTINUE IN ROUND IV. MOREOVER, WORKING GROUPS SHOULD REPORT PERIODICALLY TO PLENARY IN ORDER TO INSURE PARTICIPANTS HAVE OVERALL VIEW. FRENCH AMB ANDRE MADE POLITE BOW TO SWISS CONCERN BUT SAW NEED FOR SOME OVERLAPPING, I. E., CONCURRENT MEETINGS OF FINANCIAL/TECHNICAL GROUP AND WORKING GROUP DEALING WITH AGENDA ITEMS. HE DOUBTED SERIOUSLY FEASIBILITY OF HARRASSED WORKING GROUPS WOULD OF COURSE HAVE TO SUBMIT DRAFT TEXTS. AMB MENDELEVICH BLUNTLY SAID SMALLER DELEGATIONS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO ACCELERATE PACE OF WORK AND INCREASE SIZE OF THEIR DELEGATIONS. (COMMENT: HIS PITCH WAS HEAVY-HANDED BUT HE PROBABLY CALCULATED THAT IT WAS BETTER TO HIT NOW, AND HOPE TO DISPOSE OF THE QUESTION.)

3. WORK OUTLINE. DELEGATIONS GENERALLY ENDORSED IN VARYING DEGREES MALTESE EFFORT TO GUIDE WORK IN ROUND IV TOWARD COMPLETION IN 4 TO 5 WEEKS. PORTUGAL AND NETHERLANDS QUESTIONED, HOWEVER, RECOMMENDATION THAT AFTER FOUR WEEKS OF ROUND IV WE COULD EXPECT TO BE READY FOR A CONFERENCE IN LATE JUNE, IMPLYING JUNE PERHAPS NOT REASONABLE TARGET DATE. PORTUGAL STRESSED THAT THE QUALITY OF PREPARATION SHOULD BE FIRST PRIORITY AND SPECIFIC DATE SECOND. FRANCE, CANADA AND US TOOK LEAD TO URGE STRONGLY THAT ROUND IV BE LAST IN MPT SO THAT CONFERENCE COULD CONVENE TOWARD END OF JUNE.

4. FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS. PLENARY ACCEPTED BY CONSENSUS AFTERNOON OF 25 APRIL AS DATE FOR FIRST MEETING POLISH PROPOSED FINANCIAL/TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (HELSINKI 0826).

5. COORDINATING COMMITTEE. MALTA, ROMANIA AND SWITZERLAND FAVERED IN PRINCIPLE FRENCH-SPONSORED COORDINATING CONFIDENTIAL

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COMMITTEE FOR SECOND STAGE OF CSCE BUT SAW NO NEED FOR DECISION BEFORE LATER STAGES OF ROUND IV.

6. BASKET IV ( CONFERENCE FOLLOW- ON). PLENARY AGREED  
TO ROMANIAN PROPOSAL THAT WORKING GROUP DISCUSS BASKET IV  
ON 5 APRIL; ( COMMENT: MENDELEVICH HAS INFORMALLY MADE  
IT CLEAR THIS IS PRO FORMA MINIMAL TREATMENT BEFORE  
BREAK, AND HE EXPECTS NOTHING FROM THE WEST AT THIS  
TIME ON THIS SUBJECT.)

WHITE

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 APR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973HELSIN00895  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS WHITE  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** HELSINKI  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730432/aaaahmux.tel  
**Line Count:** 126  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 HELSINKI 826  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <09-Nov-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971120  
**Subject:** CSCE: APRIL 3 PLENARY MEETING ON WORK PROGRAMS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, FI, CSCE, PFOR  
**To:** EUR  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005